Rome Scala Santa
19th August
1876 (my)

My dear Maria

Once more at home I have no time in telling you so — The baths caused me great weakness so that I could hardly walk but they drove away the symptoms of the rheumatism

So I passed a month very sadly scarce able to walk even a ¼ of a mile

23 Aug — But Dr V has applied electricity to my knees & I am much better tho I still hobble about — the heat is very great. 80 in my room & whilst the cure is going on he won't let me go out so I'm still greenish & not very able to paint, but I have got the new frame it may spirit me on to finish for my picture with it. 25 francs does not want much more than a purchaser.

All about me are very kind & attentive

1876

Miss Maria Severn

Ch. Severn's Esqre

24 Lyme Sr. Camden Road

London N.W.

ROMA
SUCCURSALE

& even indulgent, they fly to serve me
My new frame cost me near £5 this with
the baths & travelling expences for 3 persons
(D.V. would tell me it was a great comfort)
have left me rather knocked up
26th I am improving & gaining strength, but not
allowed to go out — the cool air is come &
this revives me but I am not able to work
yet I am very comfortable
I am amused that you like the portrait
of which now Walter has got the original, size of
life — he greatly admires it & is astonished that
a couple should such a picture at my age of 82
but my Cairo is far more wonderful with 26
figures & much landscape — the wedding
party is dining under a vine — & as the water
flows into the jar it turns into wine midway
30 I am still very weak but when the heat
finishes I hope to be stronger
from your loving brother Joe
P.S. Your account of Tom is cheering